



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

8 FEBRUARY 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fontana – Seven Suspects Arrested for Alleged Involvement in Gang-Related Shooting

(U) Seven suspects, including a man from Fontana, have been arrested for their alleged involvement in a gang-related shooting which took place last year in Ontario, according to the Ontario Police Department. The incident occurred on 17 February 2021 on Solano Avenue. Numerous suspects were involved in a shooting between alleged rival gang members. The suspects fired recklessly at each other, striking several homes and vehicles in the neighborhood. Last August, five suspects were arrested in connection with the incident.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Fontana Herald News](#)

(U) Oakland – 144 Freeway Shootings in 2021, Suspects Arrested in 11% of Cases

(U) There were 144 freeway shootings in the Bay Area's nine counties in 2021, according to California Highway Patrol documents obtained through a California Public Records request. Nearly 70% of those shootings occurred in the two East Bay counties of Alameda and Contra Costa counties, the data shows. Some of the highest profile shootings include the shooting death of Jasper Wu, 2, along Interstate Highway 880 in Oakland; a party bus shooting along Interstate Highway 580 in Oakland that killed two young women; and the shooting death of a 29-year-old mother near the Bay Bridge toll plaza as she was on her way to a job interview.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [KTVU News](#)

(U) San Francisco – Hackers Steal \$4.4 Million From Blockchain Infrastructure Firm

(U) California based blockchain infrastructure company Meter is the latest victim of a cyber-attack, losing \$4.4 million on Saturday in ethereum (ETH) and bitcoin (BTC). According to blockchain analytics firm PeckShield, Meter experienced a loss of around \$4.3 million, including 1391.24945169 ETH and 2.74068396 BTC. Meter is only the latest in a series of cyber hacks in recent months. Cross-chain protocol Wormhole recently reported a significant hack which resulted in a loss of \$323 million in ETH. Qubit Finance was also a victim, losing \$80 million.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Crypto Daily](#)

(U) Santa Rosa – Man Found Possessing Drugs and Ghost Gun

(U) Pedro Lopez-Plascencia, 26, is accused of selling drugs in Santa Rosa and the surrounding areas. Police searched his home on Butterfly Lane and found about 2,200 Fentanyl pills, 3-ounces of cocaine, 2.5-pounds of psychedelic mushrooms, a ghost gun, and about \$10,000 in cash. Lopez-Plascencia was arrested on various narcotic trafficking and weapon-related charges.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [KSRO News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – Mothers Looking for Missing Adult Children Find Mass Grave

(U) Sonora – Colectivo Madres Buscadoras (Mothers' Search Collective), relatives of missing persons, reported finding a mass grave in the Mexican desert 40-miles south of Nogales, Arizona, with the

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charred skeletal remains of up to 50 people. Northeast Sonora, where the Sinaloa cartel once controlled most drug trafficking routes to Arizona, in recent years has become a battleground for rival drug cartels, Mexican media report. The Sinaloa cartel is fighting incursions from La Linea (the old Juarez cartel) from Chihuahua, the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG) from the south and has issues with one of its own cells headed by Rafael Caro Quintero.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Fox News](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Robot 'Dogs' Could Patrol the US/Mexico Border

(U) Washington – The United States is considering the possibility of putting robot dogs to patrol its border. Although the first brand that normally comes to mind when talking about this type of robot is Boston Dynamics, the country wants to collaborate with a Ghost Robotics company. According to the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), its intention is to monitor the southern part of the country that borders Mexico. The metal skeleton quadrupeds that will be used for this mission are the Ghost Vision 60, which work without the need for human intervention, but can also be remote controlled.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Euro Weekly News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – DHS Warns of Copycat Attacks After Hostage Standoff in Texas Synagogue

(U) Washington – DHS issued a terror threat bulletin Monday warning that supporters of foreign terrorist organizations have encouraged copycat attacks following last month's hostage standoff crisis at Beth Israel Synagogue in Colleyville, Texas. "The recent attack on a synagogue in Colleyville, Texas highlights the continuing threat of violence based upon racial or religious motivations, as well as threats against faith-based organizations," the department cautioned in its latest National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) bulletin. The warning said that the "primary terrorism-related threat to the United States continues to stem from lone offenders or small cells of individuals" whose grievances are increasingly "cultivated through the consumption of certain online content."

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [CBS News](#)

(U) Missouri – Illicit Drugs Hidden in Furniture Lead to Largest Seizure in St. Louis History

(U) St. Louis – Gerald Hunter, a leader of a California-based drug trafficking organization, will be sentenced in March for running an elaborate smuggling operation through St. Louis, using an unsuspecting storage facility as the key transportation point for massive amounts of fentanyl. In 2017, authorities seized 27-kilograms of fentanyl hidden inside a storage unit. The shipping companies also had no idea they were transporting the drug-filled furniture from California to St. Louis. US Drug Enforcement Administration officials said the fentanyl would have likely gone to a distributor before being broken down into smaller quantities and provided to local dealers.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [KFOR News](#)

(U) Virginia – Man Arrested Following Shooting at Grocery Store

(U) Richland – Richland Police announced Aaron Christopher Kelly, 39, is the suspect in Monday morning's shooting and has been arrested. Officers did confirm that one person was killed, and another remains in critical condition at a nearby hospital. Chief Clary stated that police received a call about the shooting at 11:03 AM. The first officer arrived on the scene at 11:04. Initial information to dispatchers is that a shooter was inside the store and multiple shots had been fired. Officers rushed into the store and located two victims. Officers quickly began life-saving measures, but one victim passed away at the scene and the other was sent to hospital.

SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [KEPR News](#)

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Iran – Nation Tries Alleged Leader of US-based ‘Terrorist Group’

(U) Tehran – Iran-born Jamshid Sharmahd, 66, who is also a German national and a US resident, is charged with spreading “corruption on earth,” one of the most severe charges in the Islamic republic, and which carries the death penalty. “The trial of Jamshid Sharmahd, the leader of the Tondar terrorist group, was held in public this morning,” the Judiciary’s Mizan Online agency said. Sharmahd is “accused of corruption on earth by planning and directing terrorist acts.” It also includes the bombing of a mosque in southern Iran on 12 April 2008, which killed 14 people and injured approximately 300 others. SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Daily Times](#)

(U) South Africa – Twins Sentenced to Prison for Terrorism in US Embassy Plot

(U) Johannesburg – A court convicted twin brothers for terrorism over plans to attack the US embassy in Pretoria and join the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Tony-Lee Thulsie and Brandon-Lee Thulsie, 28, pleaded guilty as part of a plea bargain with the prosecution. Hours later the court issued Tony-Lee with an 11-year jail term while his brother Brandon-Lee was sentenced to eight years. Both pleaded guilty to planning to travel to Syria to join ISIS. Tony-Lee also admitted to planning a terrorist attack in South Africa, they added. Prosecutors said attacks also had been planned against American, British, Russian, or French diplomats in Pretoria as well as Jewish institutions. The United States added the pair to its terror blacklist in 2017. SOURCE: 7 February 2022, [Africa News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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